The Leadership Alliance is a consortium of more than 30 colleges and universities working together to increase the number of underrepresented minority students that enter graduate programs and the professoriate. The Summer Research – Early Identification Program (SR-EIP) provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to gain research experience.

The SR-EIP provides undergraduates with training and mentoring in the principles underlying the conduct of research and prepares them to pursue a PhD or MD-PhD. We offer a nine-week residential program exposing students to three program components: research, mentorship, and graduate school preparation.

Since 2009, we have hosted 191 students.
MENTOR REQUIREMENTS

Preparation: Make sure everything is ready before your mentee arrives, especially with respect to your mentee’s project and anyone who will help supervise it.

Adequate time: Your mentee must be able to meet with you and/or someone you oversee regularly.

Approachability: Your mentee must be able to approach you with questions and concerns.

Thoughtful project selection: Your mentee’s project should be manageable to complete in nine weeks, but challenging enough to serve as a learning experience.

Alignment of interests: Your research agenda should align with your mentee’s interests.

Willingness to prioritize your mentee’s growth: Unlike graduate students and research assistants, an undergraduate mentee’s project should aim to help them master skills and concepts even if it means they may not advance your research agenda.

Flexibility and growth: Realize that the needs of your mentee will likely change over time.

For more information, review these additional mentor guidelines.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Humanities and Social Sciences Participants
- Meet weekly with faculty mentors who provide research oversight
- Take an academic and professional writing course to learn how to effectively communicate about research
- Participate in structured writing groups focused on the components of research writing
- Obtain critical writing feedback from peers

STEM Participants
- Engage in daily lab sessions with faculty mentors
- Gain theoretical knowledge and practical methodological training in academic research and scientific experimentation
- Attend weekly coaching sessions led by advanced STEM graduate students
- Participate in research and ethics workshops

Interested in becoming a mentor?

To learn more, please contact: Terrance Range, EdM, Program Director, at range@uchicago.edu, or visit leadershipalliance.uchicago.edu.